

## Family EPEÏRIDÆ.

## Genus EPEÏRA, Walck.

*Epeïra sericata.*

*Epeïra sericata*, C. Koch, Uebers. des Arachn. Syst. erstes Heft, p. 2; Die Arachn. Band xi. p. 110, tab. 385. figs. 914, 915; Blackw., Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland, part ii. p. 328, pl. 23. fig. 238.  
— *virgata*, Hahn, Die Arachn. Band ii. p. 26, tab. 46. fig. 113.

*Epeïra sericata* appears to be a common spider in Montreal. The collection contained numerous specimens, some of which were adult, and the others in various stages of growth.

*Epeïra cucurbitina.*

*Epeïra cucurbitina*, Walck., Hist. Nat. des Insect. Apt. t. ii. p. 76; Latr., Gen. Crust. et Insect. t. i. p. 107; Sund., Vet. Acad. Handl. 1832, p. 245; Blackw., Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland, part ii. p. 342, pl. 25. fig. 247.

*Miranda cucurbitina*, C. Koch, Die Arachn. Band v. p. 53, tab. 159. figs. 371, 372; titulus 5, Lister, Hist. Animal. Angl., De Aran. p. 34, tab. 1. fig. 5.

An immature female of this *Epeïra* was included in the collection.

LIV.—*On two undescribed Species of European Birds.* By R. B. SHARPE, F.L.S., Librarian to the Zoological Society of London, and H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S. &c.

IN the course of our studies on the birds of the Western Palæarctic Region we have met with two birds which, as far as we can see, are deserving of specific separation from the species with which they have usually been classed. The first of these we designate

*Picus Lilfordi*, n. sp.

*P. similis P. leuconoto*, sed pileo coccineo et præcipue dorsi postici fasciis nigris conspicuis distinguendus.

This new species is closely allied to the *Picus leuconotus* of Northern Europe, but differs materially in its crimson crown and conspicuously barred rump. In the northern bird the head is vermilion and the rump pure white.

We have dedicated this species to Lord Lilford, the President of the British Ornithologists' Union, who shot the typical specimen in Epirus. Besides this example we have no less than eight Macedonian skins, collected by Dr. Krüper, as well as one sent us by Mr. Robson from Ortakeuy, in Turkey. A

glance at a series of specimens is all that is needed to convince the most sceptical that *P. Lilfordi* is an excellent species.

Our second bird is from the British islands; and it is proposed to call it

*Parus britannicus*, n. sp.

*P. similis P. atro*, sed paullo minor et dorso semper olivaceo-fulvo distinguendus.

The Coal Titmouse of England will be found, on comparison with Continental examples, to be perfectly distinct, inasmuch as it has the back olive-buff, quite different from the species from the mainland, which has a slaty-blue back. Any one who examines the Coal Titmouse figured in English works, and compares it with the figure given in any Continental book, will see that, as each naturalist illustrates the bird found in his own country, the plates do not at all agree. We have now before us a large series of the two species, shot at all seasons of the year in England, and from nearly every part of the Continent. Both species will be figured in our work on the Birds of Europe.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*On a new Species of Buceros.* By G. R. GRAY.

[Plate XVII.]

HAVING had my attention drawn by Mr. E. Bartlett to a head and bill of a species of *Buceros* which, on examination, presented in its formation very remarkable differences from any of the known species of that group of birds, I am induced to offer the following description of its singular and distinctive characters, under the name of

*Buceros (Byanistes?) casuarinus.* Pl. XVII.

Bill broad at base, laterally compressed to the tip; casque elevated posteriorly and extending somewhat backwards over the eyes, rather compressed along the culmen, which is flat and grooved along the middle for two thirds of its length, the sides of the casque shelving to the nasal channel, and furnished with six deep oblique grooves; the sides below the former are comparatively smooth, and with three apparent scales near the eyes; the nostrils are large and deeply imbedded in a broad channel which runs along the sides of the maxilla for about two thirds of its length, in which they are situated at its base; the mandibula has the gonyes long and curved to the tip: the sides are furnished with four very obliquely placed grooves, advancing towards each other beneath